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Senate

The Senate was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, December 12, 2005, at 2 p.m.

House of Representatives

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2005

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord of history and ever-present Master of destiny, Your providential care of Your people and eternal wisdom guide each Member of this Chamber in his or her personal responsibility as a leader in governing this Nation.

Yet You have brought together at this moment in history this diverse assembly as representative of Your free people to address with courage and deliberation the joys and the sorrows of the American people.

By Your gracious will, empower them to protect and defend the good times claimed by the American dream, and help them to deal with the shock, the terror, and the revelation that sudden attack and surprises cause Your people.

Lord, if Your people do not learn from the past, You will allow us to repeat some mistakes because You always lead us to lasting truth, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. HEFLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

I would like to remind the House that today is December 7, a day, as announced from this podium, that would live in infamy, because this country was not ready at that time to protect and defend its borders and defend its people.

I hope we have learned from the lessons of the past.

Mr. HEFLEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

REMEMBERING PEARL HARBOR

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, around breakfast time on a stunning Sunday sunrise, Luke Trahin, a 22-year-old sailor from Texas, noticed large formations of aircraft darkening the glistening sky. He kept watching it until suddenly bombs from the Japanese invaders started dropping on Pearl Harbor Naval Base. It was December 7, 1941.

After the smoke cleared that morning of madness, the American battleships, the ships of the line were destroyed. 188 planes were destroyed. 2,471 Americans, servicemen and civilians were killed by this unwarranted terror from the skies.

Luke and his buddies in Hawaii quickly got organized and for 2 days, waited for the Japanese landing, but it did not occur. Luke Trahin stayed in the Navy a total of 6 years until World

War II was won by his greatest generation.

He is now 86 years of age and he lives in southeast Texas. He still wears his Navy blues and medals on Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and, of course, the 4th of July. He is a proud Pearl Harbor survivor.

To my friend, Luke Trahin, and all those who served the cause of freedom, and the 400,000 Americans who died in World War II, December 7, as FDR said, is a day that will and has lived in infamy. That's just the way it is.

AMERICA'S PRESENCE IN IRAQ

(Mr. MORAN of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, the President has been touring the country giving speeches to justify his Iraq war policy to a series of controlled audiences. But as the American public nevertheless lends an eager ear, it hears a muddled message.

Today it is the economy. But the fact is that in Iraq, the unemployment rate is over 50 percent. Oil, water, electricity is worse than pre-war levels.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA) has offered an alternative vision, immediate redeployment as soon as practicable, but with a military force over the horizon. The fact is, Mr. Speaker, that our bottom line needs to be, what policy is going to enable our once inexhaustible military to regain its strength and to

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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